

**St. Wilfrid's
RC College**

Newsletter

Summer Term 2019



2018/2019



Northern Saints
Teaching School Alliance



Northern Saints
Catholic Education Trust

St Wilfrid's Newsletter

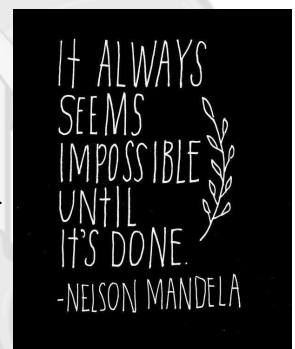
Summer Term

Welcome to the final newsletter of this academic year. Once again this has been a very busy and successful term. I hope you enjoy reading about all the wonderful activities, events and achievements undertaken by the students and staff within St Wilfrid's community. As we approach the end of term I would like to wish everyone a relaxing and enjoyable summer break.

Mr T B Tapping - Executive Headteacher

External Exams

Students across the school undertook examinations in May and June, the culmination of all the hours of hard work put in across the year. Year 11 and Year 13 students left after completing their external examinations and we would like to wish them the best of luck with their future. We hope to see many of our Year 11 students return to our sixth form. School will be open to students on results days from 8am on Thursday 15th August for A level results and 10am on Thursday 22nd August for GCSEs



Better Health at Work Award



At the end of 2018 we were delighted to learn that we had been successful in achieving the North East Better Health at Work Award Silver award. This recognises workplaces that have built on their foundations of a healthier workplace and take a more holistic view of health at work. We attended the South Tyneside Public Health Awards at Town Hall to collect this and the award for South Tyneside Health Advocate of the Year Award.

Trust Expansion

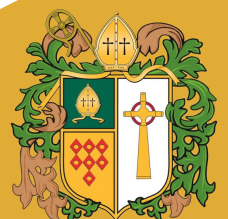
On 1 May we were thrilled to officially welcome St Joseph's Catholic Academy in Hebburn, St Mary's Catholic Primary School in Jarrow and Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Primary School in Peterlee into Northern Saints Catholic Education Trust.



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Key Dates:

- 2 September - Inset day, school closed to students
- 3 September— Return to School, Yr 7-11
- 4 September— Return to School, Yr 12
- 5 September— Return to School, Yr 13



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John Paul II Award Winners

Congratulations to all our students who were recognised at the John Paul II Awards ceremony in April. This Award enables participants to take an active part in the life of their Church – in the life of their community and society. We are very proud of their involvement in this fantastic scheme.



Brilliant Club Scholars Programme

The Brilliant Club exists to increase the number of pupils from under-represented backgrounds progressing to highly selective universities. In May, eight of our Year 12 students who completed the Brilliant Club Scholars Programme graduated from this. Well done to all involved!



Teach First School Centred Learning

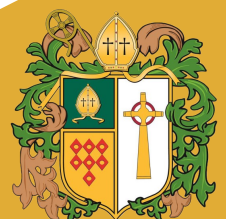
For the third year running we opened our doors to 25 Teach First trainee teachers for 8 days as part of their School Centred Learning Summer Institute. Students teaching English, Science, Geography, History and MFL spent time in our classrooms to equip them with the practical skills, knowledge and mind-sets needed to succeed in the classroom ahead of starting as trainee teachers in September at a number of secondary schools across the region. As always, we celebrated their time with us by inviting them to an afternoon tea with staff, prepared by our wonderful catering team.



Key Dates:

17 September—Academic Awards Evening

1 October—Yr 6 Open Evening



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The Spanish Apprentice

A group of our excellent year 9 Spanish students went to Durham University this term to take part in the Spanish Apprentice. They learnt how useful languages are in a career in marketing and helped put together a wonderful advert for Bishop Auckland in Spanish! We were so impressed by their creativity, sense of humour and resilience in language learning.



Spanish Taster sessions in feeder primaries

Miss Moreira and Miss Hume took some of our fantastic year 9 pupils to St. Peter & Paul's and St. Gregory's to deliver some Spanish taster sessions for our incoming year 6 pupils. They learnt all about the Mexican festival of Día de los Muertos and we are so excited to welcome these pupils to St. Wilfrid's in September.



Festival of Languages

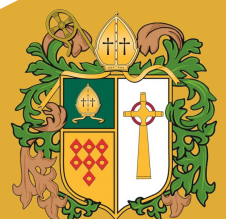
On the 4th July we hosted the Festival of Languages at St. Wilfrid's for five of our feeder primary schools. Pupils experienced a range of languages and cultures and learnt the Colombian salsa, the New Zealand haka, Bolivian Quechua, how to introduce themselves in Portuguese and about tourist sights in France (amongst many other awesome ideas!). We were exceptionally proud of our pupils who volunteered at the event and ran many of the stalls for us. We received fantastic feedback from the primary children about the whole event but they all seemed to enjoy learning the haka the most which got louder as the event went on!



Key Dates:

8-9 October—Yr 12 Retreat

11 October—Yr 7 Welcome Mass



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School Council

A busy year for Student Council! Well done to all involved in shaping the following amazing strategies within the school.

South Tyneside Young People's Parliament



As we informed you in the end of term letter, four of our Student Council members have been involved in this work in school. During national Mental Health week in May, the students delivered assemblies on body image and mental health to KS3 and KS4. They raised money for a local mental health charity through a bake sale, selling green ribbons with positive message scrolls and a held a raffle. Additionally, they placed positive messages around the school and organised form time activities, linking to a theme on each day. The students showcased their campaign on the 27 June at South Shields Town Hall. As part of their legacy, during Activities Week they organised the mindfulness activity.

Hygiene Bank

Canny Clean has now officially launched in school and it has had a very positive impact. Many students and staff have generously donated to the bank, which is well-stocked with a variety of items. This was one of the initiatives that four members of the council discussed with local MP Emma Lewell Buck when she came into school to meet with them. She later posted on her twitter page:



"Today I was blown away by the passion and drive from the Student Council @StWilfridsRCcol who are making a real difference in their community. These Canny Clean boxes are just one of their initiatives and make sure everyone has access to essential toiletries."



Pupil Pride

Year 7 launched a 'Pupil Pride in Your School' poster competition in school. The winning poster was designed by Cristal Dodzo and Izzy Everett. Well done to all those who took part and to the winners!



Key Dates:

23 October—Music Department Soloist Night

25 October—Inset day



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Music Department Update

The Music Department continues to be a real 'hub' of activity with a wide range of opportunities on offer for students of all ages each and every day.

South Tyneside's Got Talent

Congratulations to Rebecca Brown and Jade Wilkinson (both Year 12) who represented St. Wilfrid's at 'South Tyneside's Got Talent'. The girls gave an outstanding performance of the vocal duet 'For Good' from the musical 'Wicked'.

Music Transition and Development Day

Over 100 students took part in our inaugural 'Music Transition and Development Day'. This took the format of an instrumental workshop in the morning, followed by a singing workshop in the afternoon. The day culminated in a showcase which was well attended by parents, friends and staff. This featured some well-known titles including: 'Star Wars', 'La Bamba', 'Stand by me' and 'Hallelujah'. We were delighted to be joined by students from St. Joseph's Catholic Academy, along with year 5 and 6 students from St. Bede's South Shields, St. Gregory's, Mortimer and Stanhope Primary Schools. We look forward to welcoming a number of these musicians to St. Wilfrid's in September!

Primary Cluster Mass

Once again St. Wilfrid's led the music at the South Tyneside Catholic Schools Primary Cluster Mass. The mass was presided over by our newly appointed Bishop. A choir was specially formed for the occasion comprising of students from all year groups. They joined colleagues from St. Joseph's Catholic Academy to presented the well-known Irish blessing 'May the road rise to meet you'. Joshua Warrington (Year 10) presented a beautiful rendition of Schubert's 'Ave Maria' as people took communion - well done Joshua!

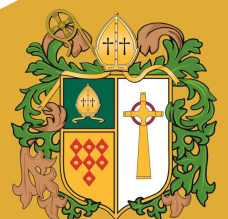
Soloist Evening #3

Our third and final 'Soloist Evening' was a resounding success with an eclectic mix of high quality instrumental and vocal performances. We are delighted how successful this new series of concerts has been and look forward to presenting more from September.

Key Dates:

w/c 28 October—Half term

14 November—6th Form Open Evening



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Activities week activities!

Pink or Blue Day

On Wednesday everyone participated in 'Pink or Blue' day to raise funds for the Chloe and Liam Together Forever Trust. Based on the 'Red or Black' TV quiz show, Mr Manuel and Mr Given acted as our very own Ant and Dec to host the quiz competition in school where much fun was had by all.



Eco-project



Whilst many students were enjoying the fun of Lightwater Valley, some Year 7's spent time quality checking the Ecobricks we've collected over the past few months, and then designed and built sculptures with them. The pupils wanted to highlight how overused plastic is in the world today, and how it specifically affects sea creatures. These were then exhibited in Saints Café to raise awareness of plastic use in school.

St. Wilfrid's across the globe!

During the last week of term groups of students left South Shields to immerse themselves in the history, geography and culture of cities such as Barcelona, Ypres, Reykjavik, the jungle in Belize ..and Preston! All had a fantastic time!



Key Dates:

19 November—Yr 7 Parents Evening

3 December—Yr 10 Parents Evening



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Sporting Achievements

This has been another incredibly successful term for sporting achievements at St Wilfrid's RC College.

We are very proud of all our pupils who represented St. Wilfrid's in athletics this term. At the QuadKids Athletics event, our Year 7 and 8 boys teams finished 3rd and 4th respectively and our Year 7 and 8 girls teams finished 4th and 5th in their respective events. A special mention must go to Rebecca Harrison, Jake Waters and Amy Stewart, who finished 1st, 2nd and 3rd in their respective individual competitions. Also in athletics, we also finished third overall in South Tyneside in the Athletics Championships at Monkton Stadium with our Year 8/9 girls being best teams in their categories. Again, special mentions to Jake Waters (1500m), Amy Stewart (800m), Ryan Stewart (1500m), Paul Mathias (high jump), Huseyin Simsir (javelin), Lily Jary (200m) and Rachel Hayter (tripe jump) who won their respective events.

In cricket, the Under 13 boys cricket team were South Tyneside and Tyne and Wear outdoor champions, as well as finishing 5th in the North of England Outdoor competition. The Under 15 girls cricket team also represented Durham County Cricket Club at the North of England Outdoor competition where they also finished 5th, concluding an outstanding year for cricket at St. Wilfrid's.

The Under 13 and Under 15 tennis teams were successful at the South Tyneside Tennis competition, with our Under 15 girls claiming 1st, 2nd and 3rd place in the doubles event. There was also a 3rd and 4th place finish for the Under 13 girls. The Under 15 boys and Under 13 boys tennis teams also claimed 2nd and 3rd place in their respective competitions. In golf, our Under 15 boys golf team claimed 2nd and 3rd place at the South Tyneside Golf Xtreme competition, qualifying to represent South Tyneside at the Tyne and Wear Finals where they finished 4th. In the South Tyneside rounders competition, our Year 7 team and Year 9 girls teams finished runners up with our Year 8 girls finishing third.

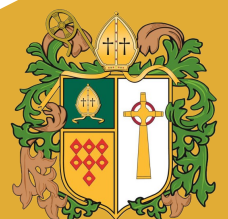
We also competed in an event focused entirely around participation, Year 7 & 8 students competed in a dodgeball tournament whereby the only pupils that could enter were those who had not represented St. Wilfrid's previously. Our pupils thoroughly enjoyed the event and represented the school superbly! We're sure you'll agree St. Wilfrid's pupils have done us all proud this year.



Key Dates:

10 December—Yr 13 Parents Evening

18 December - Community Christmas Concert



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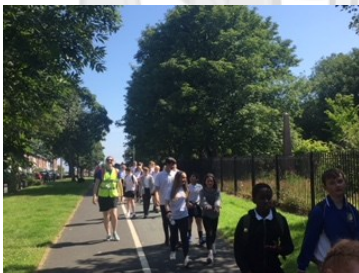
Sporting Leaders

We have had a number of pupils adopt leadership roles at sporting events this term. Our cricket leaders have been a credit to St. Wilfrid's and the PE department when officiating primary school and Year 7 and 8 cricket festivals, acting professionally with pupils and staff of other schools in their role. We also had a number of our Year 9 pupils leading a Year 4 primary tennis festival, providing encouragement and demonstrating a will for younger pupils to improve.

Outside of school...

Congratulations to:

- Skye Young who came 4th in the World dance championships.
- Lily Dixon who competed in the Great North Open Water Swim, swimming half a mile of Lake Windermere
- Rebecca Harrison who competed in the North East Athletics Championship and came 3rd in the high jump, jumping 1.35m.
- Harli Adamson (Y11), Megan Graham (Y11), Sophie Rowland (Y9) and Laila Adamson (Y9) who went to Florida in May to compete in an international cheerleading competition. They were placed 8th in the world!



Sponsored walk and run

On 15th July in the blazing sunshine, hundreds of our students and staff cumulatively walked well over twice the return distance from Land's End to John O'Groats. Pupils in Years 7-9 walked from school to South Marine Park and back again, a distance of 6.5 miles, raising £2,845.75 for the 'Together Forever' Trust and Young Minds.

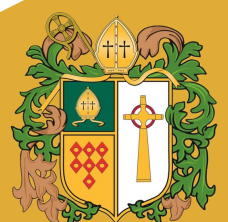
To further contribute to this, during Sports Day on 18 July, a number of teachers collectively ran the length of a marathon—93 laps of the 400m track!



Key Dates:

19 December—School Pantomime

20 December—Schools closes at lunchtime



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Sixth Form Update

The Summer Term has been an extremely busy period for our Sixth Formers both preparing for external examinations and working on their university applications and apprenticeships. Despite the busy period, our Sixth Formers should be commended for making the most of a residential opportunity at Cambridge University and for attending our Higher Education Plus programme which is aimed at supporting students in their application for top British universities.

We are delighted to announce that our new Head Boy and Head Girl have been selected from a strong field of candidates. Paul Skipper and Hannah Scott will represent the school at a number of internal and external functions and we wish them well in their new school role. In addition, we have also selected the Sixth Form committee members who will work to raise the profile of the Sixth Form and participate in decision making.

Recently, we have also run our Futures Week programme of events designed to support the Year 12 students in preparing for the world of higher education and work. Part of the week has included bringing employers and students together to discuss interview techniques and job applications. We have also attended sessions at Newcastle University Library and now each of our Year 12 students is entitled to use the library as part of their research for coursework and exams.

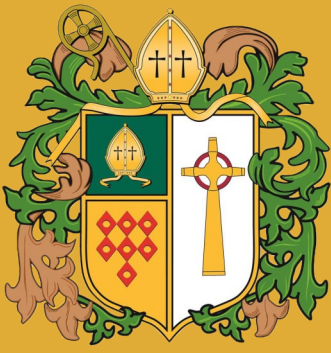
Finally, we wish a fond farewell to our Year 13 students who have recently completed their final examinations and have made their final university decisions. A-Level results are expected on August 15th. Best of luck Year 13.



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At St. Wilfrid's RC College we are committed to inspire and develop all members of our community on a journey through faith and learning

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Sixth Form

A level sign up day is 22nd August 2019

For details contact tallen@st-wilfrids.org



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